

MACHAME ROUTE MT.KILIMANJARO

Day 1 Drive to the Machame Park gate

Leave Hotel and drive for 2 hours to Machame Park Gate, drop off, work for permit and registrations, start hiking through rain forest up to machame campsite for dinner and overnight, 4-6 hrs hike, 3000m above sea level!

Day 2 Hiking to Shira

Emerging from the forest into the giant heather zone and out onto fine open moorland to camp by the Shira Cave at 3,840m. We've seen herds of eland up here and there are fascinating geological features in the old volcanic caldera which can be viewed during a half hour optional walk in the afternoon. 840m ascent and 4-5 hours walking.

Day 3 Climb towards the main peak Kibo

From Shira, climb towards the main peak Kibo, with the western glaciers clearly visible across the rugged high-altitude desert of volcanic rocks and boulders. Skirting around its base and under the imposing western Breach, descend into the sheltered Barranco Valley for mid-way and dropped back down assists acclimatization.

Day 4 Up the steep Barranco wall...

Up the steep Barranco wall with some sections of very easy scrambling and drop down again to the Karanga Valley. This is a short walking day, 3-4 hours, with an optional acclimatization hike in afternoon up onto the scree below the glaciers.

Day 5 Up to Barafu Hut

Up to a new camp about 150m above Barafu Hut perched high on a rocky bluff at 4,750m Fantastic views across to Mawenzi peak, and a bit less to climb tomorrow morning! This is immediately before the hard summit day.

Day 6 Climb the steep frozen scree

A bracing am start to climb the steep frozen scree. This is unavoidable on any route but we aim to reach Stella point on the crater rim for sunrise-another 40 mins and you're the highest point on the continent, usually in warm sunshine.

Day 7 Descend through the forest to Mweka Gate

Less than 4 hours descent through the forest to Mweka Gate and meet our vehicle for a transfer to Arusha.